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January 21, 2004

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Art Unit 1617

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re:

U.S. Utility Patent Application

Application No. 10/668,248; Filed: September 24, 2003

For: Local Anesthetic Methods and Kits

Inventors:

Weber, et al.

Our Ref:

2009.0010005/RWE/RAS

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

- 1. Information Disclosure Statement:
- 2. Two (2) pages of Form PTO-1449 citing fifteen (15) documents; and
- 3. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents January 21, 2004 Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Robert A. Schwartzman, Ph.D.

Agent for Applicant Registration No. 50,211

RWE/RAS/law Enclosures

221281



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Weber, et al.

Appl. No. 10/668,248

Filed: September 24, 2003

For: Local Anesthetic Methods and

Kits

Confirmation No. 4290

Art Unit: 1617

Examiner: To be assigned

Atty. Docket: 2009.0010005/RWE/RAS

Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Listed on accompanying Form PTO-1449 are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. Copies of documents AA1 to AG1 and AR1 to AS2 were cited by or submitted to the Office in an Information Disclosure Statement that complies with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)-(c) in Application No. 10/155,171, filed May 28, 2002, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Thus, copies of these documents are not attached. 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d). Copies of documents AH1 to AJ1 are not submitted in accordance with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office pre-OG notice of July 11, 2003, which states "[t]he Office hereby waives the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each U.S. patent application publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003.

Where the publication date of a listed document does not provide a month of publication, the year of publication of the listed document is sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date so that the month of publication is not in issue. Applicants have listed publication dates on the attached PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates

should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith. It is further understood that the Examiner will consider information that had been cited or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in a prior application relied on under 35 U.S.C. § 120. 1138 OG 37, 38 (May 19, 1992).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No statement or fee is required.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449, and to indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Robert A. Schwartzman Agent for Applicants

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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

DATE CONSIDERED

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EXAMINER

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